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REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending in this application.

Claims 9-10 and 16-26 are withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1-8 and 11-15 are rejected.

Claims 9-10 and 16-26 were withdrawn from consideration due to an earlier restriction requirement. Non-elected claims 16-26 are cancelled. The applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications on the non-elected claims.

A modification of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested. The restriction requirement of claims 9-10 is not proper, since claims 9-10 depend from claim 1. Allowance of claim 1 will necessarily result in the allowance of claims 9-10.

Claims 1-8 and 11-15 are rejected under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-15 of U.S. Patent No. 6,576,969. This rejection is overcome by the attached terminal disclaimer.

The examiner is respectfully requested to allow claims 1-15. If any issues remain, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to discuss those remaining issues.